

(213) 620-2380

SFUND RECORDS CTR
2052065

Rutherford Oil Company
Currently: Facet Energy Inc
Rutherford/Pacific Inc
3020 Orange Avenue
Long Beach, Los Angeles County
California 90807

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Southern California Section
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In 1965, Sieghall Inc. started Rutherford Oil, a waste oil recycling operation at the corner of Orange and Spring in Long Beach. After filing for bankruptcy 14 years later, the operation was purchased by Lawrence Webster and Thomas Allen on June 15, 1979. The facility continued to operate as Rutherford Oil until 1982 when it changed the title to Facet Energy Inc. Facet operated the recycling facility while Rutherford/Pacific Inc. developed as the waste hauler. The title of Intercoastal Oil Inc. was created to manage the purchasing/sales of the recycled waste oil. Although separate companies, L. Webster owns 100% of Facet, 100% of Rutherford/Pacific and 51% of Intercoastal Oil. Only Facet and Rutherford/Pacific operate out of the 3020 Orange Avenue site.

Facet accepts waste oil from various sources and recycles it for re-sale. The oil is delivered by truck and deposited in two "drop tanks" near the main tank farm. The oil is pumped from the drop tanks to the "raw feeder" tank. When enough oil is collected, the oil is placed in treatment tanks where it is heated to 160° and dewatering chemicals are added. The treated oil is collected in the unit feeder tank before being transported to the distillation unit at the southeast section of the site. The refined oil is pumped back to the product-holding tanks while lighter petroleum products are placed in two tanks near the distillation unit and oily wastewater is pumped into wastewater-holding tanks.

Facet was inspected by the California State Department of Health Services (CA-DOHS) in 1983 as a possible candidate for a hazardous waste permit. Since then, Facet has received numerous Notice-of-Violations (NOVs) by CA-DOHS and the Long Beach Environmental Health Department (LBEHD) for various violations. Compliance with these NOVs was never fully achieved.

Because of unusual circumstances surrounding the death of a senior employee of Facet, an investigation/inspection was performed on April 1, 1985 led by California Occupational Safety and Health Association (CAL/OSHA) and joined by State, County and Long Beach Health agencies. The company was directed to cease operations, remove any hazardous waste stored at the facility and submit a Remedial Action Plan (RAP) for cleanup. A RAP was originally requested in June of 1984 by State Health which Facet has not supplied.

Several problems of concern exist at Facet. Intended only to accept waste oil, a manifest check has revealed that Facet accepted halogenated solvents, unspecified solvents and acetone. Facet is suspected of disguising transportation of solvents and other non-oil waste as oily wastewater in order to avoid disposal requirements. A load marked "mud and water" on the manifest was rejected by BKK Landfill in May 1983 because there was a "strong organic odor". Another problem exists with the tank farm which is surrounded by a cement berm about one foot high (on the outside). The berm contains a dark black/brown oily sludge which has been analyzed as containing high concentrations of heavy metals. No evidence has been found to indicate the existence of a liner for the bermed area. Illegal discharges have been reported both on site and off site as well as illegally discharging into the Long Beach sewer system. The operator of the adjacent property to the east, Evan's Pump Co., has complained about runoff from Facet ponding in low-lying areas on Evan's property. Analysis of soil samples taken from these ponding areas show very high concentrations of heavy metals.

The Department of Health Services' Southern California Section (SCS) is currently taking enforcement actions against Facet Energy. The company has been referred to the LA District Attorney for possible civil/criminal penalties.

SCS has ranked the site; its preliminary ranking score is 50. SCS's Assessment & Mitigation Unit will become involved after ranking becomes final (QA/QC).

Recommendations:

Active status, high priority. Facet's possible unlined tank farm and numerous illegal discharges to the ground poses a serious contamination problem. Analysis shows heavy metal halogenated hydrocarbon and hydrocarbon solvent contamination. An unconfined aquifer rests 50 feet below the site and appears to interconnect with several usable aquifers.

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
Region 9

Preparer's Name Stephen F. Baxter

Date May 1985

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
1. Site ID Number	RCRA Database 05-23-84	Facet Energy Inc. CAD 990669400 Rutherford/Pacific Inc. CAD 980737035
2. Site Name	Abandoned Site File (ASP) ----- Same as #1	Formerly: <u>Rutherford oil Co.</u> ----- Currently: <u>Facet Energy Inc.</u> <u>Rutherford/Pacific Inc.</u>
3. Site Location	Same as #1	3020 Orange Avenue Long Beach, CA 90807
4. County	Same as #1	Los Angeles County
5. Owner	Tax Assessor Files 1984	<u>Cree Investment Co.</u> 3250 Cherry Avenue Long Beach, CA 90807
6. Operator	Hazardous Waste Information System 04-29-85 Pacific Telephone Information (411) 04-29-85	Rutherford/Pacific <u>3020 Orange Avenue</u> Long Beach, CA 90807 (213) 595-9461 <u>Facet Energy Inc.</u> 1317 E. Wardlow Road Long Beach, CA 90807 (213) 595-7333
7. Type of Ownership	Same as #5	Private
8. Status	Notice of Violation and Order to comply (NOV-OTC) 05-09-85	Active, yet recently ordered to cease activity by State Health Dept.

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
Region 9

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Date May 1985

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(continued)

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
9. Source Activity	Correspondence 09-26-83	Facet Energy Inc. Recycling facility for waste oil.
	Hazardous Waste Hauler's List 01-02-85	Rutherford/Pacific Inc. Registered hazardous waste hauler #1158
10. Years of Operation	Same as #1	Presently: Facet Energy Inc. Rutherford Pacific Inc.
	Memorandum 11-02-82	Circa-Jan. 1982 Rutherford Oil changes name to Facet Energy Inc.
	Trustee's Bill of Sale 06-15-79	June 1979 Rutherford Oil is bought by L. Webster and T. Allen
	Industrial Waste Dis- posal Survey 07-24-80	1965 Rutherford Oil begins activity on site.
	Long Beach City Planning microfische file	1966: Riley & Sons Trucking 1962: I.S. Runolfson
	Long Beach City Planning Commission File	July 1960: ANSCO Construction Co.
11. Facility Type	Aerial Photo's 8/84	Tanks Oily wastewater is stored in six above ground tanks:
	Aerial Photo estimations 04-30-85 Investigation Notes 06-20-85	(2) 50-kgal 35-kgal 20-kgal (2) 10-kgal Total approx. 175,000 gallons

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Region 9

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continued

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
11. Facility Type (continued)	<p>Memorandum 02-12-85</p> <p>Long Beach/Facet correspondence 02-25-85</p> <p>Telephone Record 02-26-85</p> <p>Memo of call 05-06-85</p>	<p>Waste Oil is stored and/or processed in six above ground tanks:</p> <p>(4) 15-kgal "treatment" 35-kgal "raw feeder" 35-kgal "unit feeder" total approx. 130,000 gallons</p> <p>Recycled oil product is stored in four above ground tanks:</p> <p>50-kgal 35-kgal 20-kgal 10-kgal total approx. 115,000 gallons</p> <p><u>Discharge Storage</u></p> <p>Inter-tank space within bermed tank farm approximately 4900 ft² in area. Contains black/brown sludge. Thickness varies from 1" to two feet or more.</p> <p><u>Drums</u></p> <p>Several 55-gallon drums containing unidentified substances was reported. Other drums are placed throughout the facility. Approximately 40 drums can be seen from aerial photos taken 8/84.</p> <p><u>Illegal Discharge</u></p> <p>Ponding and surface runoff at various location around tank farm. Discoloration of soil north of tank farm. Liquid waste disposed of down the street into the sewer system. Serious offsite runoff/ponding problem to eastern adjacent property.</p>

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	SOURCE	INFORMATION
12. Waste Type and Description	Lab Analysis Request 06-20-84 Lab Analysis Report 07-17-84, 09-12-84 and 05-03-85 Investigator's Notes 04-26-85 and 06-20-84	<u>Oily Wastewater</u> Descriptions of the oily wastewater is unavailable as well as the method for disposal. <u>Tank Farm Sludge</u> Analysis of sludge between the tanks shows high concentrations of Cadmium, copper, lead and zinc along with trace amounts of halogenated hydrocarbons (perchloroethylene and trichloroethane) benzene and acetone. <u>Illegal Discharge</u> From various locations on the site, sample analysis has shown high contamination of heavy metals including cadmium, chromium, copper, nickel, lead and zinc. Also small amounts of petroleum distillates (C6, C7, C8, C9) and a variety of halogenated hydrocarbons. Note: Although tested for, PCB has not been detected in the Lab Analysis viewed for this Preliminary Assessment.

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13. Contacts:

Frank Banoles, Senior Sanitarian - Long Beach Environmental
Health Department (213) 427-7421

Jim McNally, Waste Management Specialist III - CA-Department of Health
Services, Toxic Division (213) 620-2380

Bob Mahoney - Rutherford/Pacific Inc. (213) 595-9461

Larry Webster, Facility Owner - Facet Energy Inc. (213) 595-5503

Phil. Valenti, Investigator - California Occupational Safety and Health
Administration (213) 590-5035

14. Incidents:

02-21-85 While a Senior Facet employee, Jose Lopez, was in vicinity of tank farm, there was a loud explosion with smoke and flames seen rising from the drop tanks. After investigation, Lopez's body was found in the drop tank under 33 inches of oil. The cross section of the drop tank is 26 by 28 inches.

15. Inspections:

04-01-85 Enforcement Investigation/Inspection, Lead Agency: California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (CAL/OSHA) joined by California Dept. of Health Services (CA-DOHS), Los Angeles County Dept. of Health Services (LA-DOHS) and Long Beach Dept. of Public Health (LBDPH). Under warrant, the facility was inspected and samples taken. Notice of Violation (NOV) issued by CA-DOHS on 05-09-85.

02-12-85 Facility Inspection, LBDPH. Notice-of-Violation issued 02-25-85.

11-01-84 Vehicle Inspection, Thomas Heffernan from CA-DOHS. Irregularities discovered on manifests of waste oil loads arriving at Facet Energy.

09-12-84 Sampling Inspection, CA-DOHS. Analysis of samples show heavy metal, halogenated hydrocarbon, hydrocarbon solvent contamination.

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15. Inspections (continued)

06-20-84 CA-DOHS Inspection. Notice of Violation issued 06-20-84.

04-08-83 Complaint Inspection, CA-DOHS. Recommended meeting between Facet owner and CA-DOHS to determine permitting of facility.

03-29-83 Drive-by Inspection, Abandoned Site Project. Recommends further records search.

16. Enforcement History

05-09-85 Notice of Violation and Directive to Comply (NOV-DTC), CA-DOHS. Directed Facet to cease operations, remove any hazardous waste and submit remedial action plan for cleanup.

04-20-85 Order Prohibiting Use, Cal/OSHA. Cease transfer of any flammable material until proper safeguards are conformed to.

02-25-85 NOV, LBDPH. Directed to remove black sludge around storage tanks, remove contaminated soil, provide site characterization and provide remedial action plan.

07-26-84 DTC, CA-DOHS. Follow up order to NOV-DTC issued.

06-20-84 Remedial action plan not received.

06-20-84 NOV-DTC, to Facet Energy CA-DOHS. Directed to remove sludge around storage tanks, remove contaminated soil, contain/cover water bleed to COP unit, cannot store hazardous waste more than 90 days, rinse from COP unit must be contained, cease illegal waste discharge to ground and submit remedial action plan.

06-20-84 NOV-DTC to Rutherford/Pacific, CA-DOHS. All holding tanks used by Rutherford/Pacific must be permitted by CA-DOHS.

10-20-83 Facility Directive, CA-DOHS. Directed to appear for a meeting to resolve whether Facet Energy need to be permitted.

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17.a. Initial recommendation for further action:

Active status. High priority. Possibly unlined bermed tank farm and illegal discharge high in heavy metals and detectable halogenated solvents. Usable groundwater near surface and interconnected.

17.b. EPA recommendation for further action:

18. Response Termination: ☐ No Further Action ☐ Pending ☐ Active

Justification:

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
19. Observed Release		
20. Depth to Aquifer		
21. Net Precipitation Net seas. rainfall Evaporation		
22. Permeability of Unsaturated Zone		
23. Physical State		
24. Containment (Ground Water)		
25. Toxicity		
26. Persistence		
27. Waste Quantity		
28. Ground Water Use		
29. Distance to Well		
30. Population Served (by Ground Water)		

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
31. Facility Slope		
32. 1 yr. 24 hr. rainfall		
33. Distance to Surface Water		
34. Containment (Surface Water)		
35. Surface Water Use		
36. Distance to Sensi- tive Environment		
37. Population Served (by Surface Water)		
38. Distance to Water Intake		
39. Reactivity		
40. Incompatibility		
41. Toxicity (Air)		
42. Population within 4 mile radius		
43. Land Use		